

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 25 of page 3 as follows:

This configuration regulates the position of the recording head 1050 to the position at which the cap 1060 reliably receives the ink discharged through flushing. Further, when capping is performed, the recording head 1050 and the cap member ~~[[106]]~~ 1060 are reliably positioned relative with each other with high accuracy.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 12 of page 10 as follows:

To assure that a smooth recording operation is repeatedly performed, the head cleaning device 21 includes a timing mechanism that operates the cap mechanism 23 and the tube pump 25 at predetermined timings. That is, ~~the flexible tubes 24a,~~ 24b the flexible tube 24a and the sealed space defined by the cap 22 are depressurized through suction. The ink is thus drawn from the nozzles of the recording head 16 and is discharged to the discharged ink tray 26. In this manner, head cleaning is completed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 2 of page 23 as follows:

As illustrated in Fig. 18, two plate portions ~~36, 37~~ 136, 137 extend downward (in direction -H) from a bottom 135 of the slider 112. The plate portion 36 includes a slide shaft 138 and a contact shaft U1, while the plate portion 37 includes a slide shaft 139 and a contact shaft U2. The slide shafts 138, 139 and the contact shafts U1, U2 project in the rightward direction (-A).

Preliminary Amendment

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 9 of page 25 as follows:

The distance  $d_1$  is smaller than the distance  $d_2$  and the distance  $d_2$  is smaller than the distance  $d_3$ :  $d_1 < d_2 < d_3$ . Therefore, in the second embodiment, as held in the state of Fig. 21 (corresponding to the distance  $d_3$ ), the slider 112 is lifted maximally upward (in direction +H) with respect to the casing main body 103. In contrast, as held in the state of Fig. 19 (corresponding to the distance  $d_1$ ), the slider 112 is lowered maximally downward (in direction -H) with respect to the casing main body 103. Further, as held in the state of Fig. 20 (corresponding to the distance  $d_2$ ), the slider 112 is located higher than the position of Fig. ~~[[21]]~~ 19 and lower than the position of Fig. ~~[[19]]~~ 21.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 31 of page 25 as follows:

When the slider 112 is held in the standby state, the wiper W is received in the casing main body 103. When the slider 112 switches to the flushing state, ~~the slider 112~~ the wiper W is moved out of the casing main body 103 and sent to a position at which the slider 112 is allowed to contact the recording head 16.